INTERESTING DISCOVERY AT HARTLEPOOL, IN THE COUNTY OF DURHAM.—(From a Correspondent.)—The site of an ancient chapel at Hartlepool, dedicated to St. Helen, was last week discovered by Mr. James Veal, of the above town. It had long been supposed that the ruins of this chapel were buried under a large mound in the Farewell-field, and in 1813 an attempt was made, but without success, by Sir Cuthbert Sharp, to discover some remnant of the building. Mr. Veal, however, directed some workmen to remove the earth near the centre of the mound, beneath which was discovered the base of a most beautiful Gothic pillar. This having placed the matter beyond a doubt, he was directed by the corporation of the town to pursue his researches, and exhume whatever portion might remain of this ancient and interesting building. The base of three other columns, a portion of the north and south walls, a part of the east end of the chapel, and a flagged pavement at the west end, have already been brought to light. A very considerable quantity of beautifully carved stone, in a state of excellent preservation, and two mutilated images, have also been dug out. From these it is evident that this was at one time a Gothic building of great architectural richness and beauty. It is impossible as yet to ascertain the form and dimensions of the chapel, but a few more days will probably throw great light on the matter, and afford a treat to the curious and the antiquarian. The building, of which only the ruins remain, is believed to have been erected by William de Bras, who died in the reign of King John, and who is said to have given this chapel for a light to be burnt at the great or high altar at the church at Gainsborough Abbey. Whether it shared the fate of so many other similar buildings in the time of Henry the Eighth or Elizabeth, or was previously destroyed, is unknown; probably the latter is the most correct supposition. Many of the stones bear evidence of fire; and some walls which have no connection with the original building, and the form in which the earth is cast up about them, shew that it had been converted into a place of defence against an invading enemy. The process of excavating the ruin has caused great interest in the neighbourhood, and has attracted numbers of antiquarian gentlemen to witness the operation.

BROUGHAM CHAPEL.—The outward appearance of this interesting place of worship, which stands in a beautifully secluded situation at the top of a woody bank on the north-east side of Brougham Hall, shaded by fine old trees and thriving evergreens, while the green ivy creeps up and clings to its ancient walls, affords but a faint indication of its internal compactness and beauty of finish. The ceiling is most tastefully emblazoned with the coats of arms of a large number of ancient and noble families, which are gilded and coloured according to the rules of heraldry. Amongst them are the arms of the Cliffords, Vetriponts, Pembrokes, Crackenthorpes, Wyberghs, Broughams, &c., from the earliest periods. The pulpit and pews are neat but not gaudy. The chancel is most beautifully decorated with several scriptural figures of ancient carved work. During the time that Lord Brougham is located at Brougham Hall, divine worship is performed in this chapel by the incumbent of St. Ninian's Church, to which it is a chapel of ease, every Sunday afternoon.—*The Patrician.*

NEW PIER AT BLACKFRIARS' BRIDGE.—This structure, which has been for a considerable time in progress, was opened to the public towards the close of last week. It is 140 feet in length, with a dumb lighter placed at a right angle to the river of 130 feet. Two waiting-rooms have also been built, which, with the pier itself, is lighted with gas. It is the most commodious and substantial structure of the kind in London, but interferes somewhat with the eastern view of the bridge.

LARGE COMMITTEES.—Among all the long lists of provisional committee-men published, that of the Great Northern and Southern Direct railway from Huddersfield to Derby seems to be the longest. No less than 300 names are advertized.

CALCUTTA CATHEDRAL.—The Lord-Bishop of Calcutta has presented to the Bodleian library a beautiful alabaster model, executed at Pisa, of St. John's cathedral, Calcutta.

DISCOVERY OF RELICS.—The workmen employed in excavating the railroad by Thomas Salmon, Esq., at South Shields, for the conveyance of ballast from his wharf at the Tyne, to the place of deposit at the Lawe, have struck upon what is unquestionably the ancient military way, called Wreken Dyke, leading from the Roman station discovered in the same field, near the Lawe, by the late Nicholas Fairless, Esq., in 1798. The bones and antlers of deer have also now been dug out, being, probably, the remains of animals consumed as provisions by the Roman soldiers; but though Mr. Fairless, when the former discovery of a Hypocaust of Sudatory took place, became possessed of a beautiful gold coin of Marcus Aurelius, and several of brass, from Claudius Gothicus to Valentinian, yet the only coin which has now been discovered is a Danish one of brass. Lawe is, we believe, a Saxon word, signifying a fortified eminence.—*Tyne Mercury.*

ASYLUM FOR DECAYED FISHMONGERS AND POULTERERS.—A meeting of the friends and subscribers to this undertaking was held last week at Anderton's Hotel. A committee was appointed and empowered to purchase a site of ground at Woodgreen, near Tottenham and Hornsey, represented as being perfectly suited with respect to size, price, &c., for the construction of an asylum for twenty-four aged and infirm members of the two trades; also to collect plans and estimates, &c., from which to select several, and lay them before a subsequent general meeting.

WIDENING PICCADILLY.—Workmen have been busily employed during the last two weeks in putting back the wall and iron railing from opposite Park-lane, to about the end of Bolton-street, so as to increase the width of the thoroughfare. From 20 to 30 ft. of the Green-park will be taken in. In consequence of the inequality of the ground, this alteration will involve a larger expenditure than appears at first sight. It is to be hoped that the trees which, by the removal of the wall, will be placed "out of the pale," may, nevertheless, be allowed to remain.

FURNITURE WOOD.—We recently noticed the sanction of the Lords of the Treasury for the admission of certain descriptions of wood used by cabinet makers, duty free. Within the last few days the same authorities have issued an order that teak wood imported from the river Gambia under the head of furniture wood shall also be admitted, duty free. In the latter case the revenue officers must be satisfied that such wood is imported solely for making articles of furniture, and that it is inapplicable for other purposes.

THE NELSON MONUMENT IN TRAFALGAR-SQUARE.—Can any obliging correspondent inform us what has become of the celebrated man and boy formerly employed on this ill-used monument? It is whispered about, that the statues for the New Houses of Parliament are to be confided to their gentle hands, but we do hope for the sake of "the finest site in Europe," that they may be permitted to finish their work here first, so that some, at all events, of the present generation may hope to see the steps and the lions.

RAILWAY BANK.—The *Iron Times* says, We have it upon undeniable authority, that in consequence of the recent procedure of the bank, and the conduct of the *Times*, a public meeting will be held at the London tavern in the course of a few days, for the purpose of establishing a railway bank.

M.P.'S AND RAILWAYS.—It is said that some M.P.'s have taken one or two shares in each of the new lines of railway simply with the view of avoiding to serve on committees; we can't wonder at it. Last year must have fagged many, and this year the prospect is worse.

DOVER.—The formation of the new docks is proceeding rapidly. Hundreds of workmen are employed. The well known York Hotel is about to be pulled down. Serious doubts are entertained by those whose opinion is worth consideration whether after all it can ever be made a harbour of refuge.

COLONIAL TIMBER.—The practice of the revenue officers in London with respect to British colonial timber, viz., to record the number and contents only of each piece, and not the lengths and sides, as in the case of foreign timber, is about to be adopted generally throughout the kingdom.

STATUE OF SIR THOMAS GRESHAM.—This statue was installed last week in the niche which has so long stood vacant for it in the clock-tower of the new Royal Exchange. The figure is erect, 14 feet 6 inches in height, and is formed out of two blocks of Portland stone, weighing jointly between eleven and twelve tons.

NOTICES OF CONTRACTS.

[We are compelled by the interference of the Stamp Office to omit the names of the parties to whom tenders, &c., are to be addressed. For the convenience of our readers, however, they are entered in a book, and may be seen on application at the office of "The Builder," 2, York-street, Covent-garden.]

For executing the different Works required to be done in the alterations and repair of the Guildhall, Lichfield.

For the execution of the Works connected with the improvement of the Crown-street station, Liverpool, including a Tunnel of about 128 yards long, and a Bridge or Viaduct, &c., for the Grand Junction Company.

For the execution of the entire Works of the Cockermouth and Workington railway, being about 10 miles in length.

For the execution of Works on the Waterford and Kilkenny Railway, forming the first contract, viz., from Kilkenny to Bennett's Bridge, being a distance of about six miles.

For the execution of Works on the East Lancashire Railway, forming the Burnley Contract. It includes the execution of all the necessary Excavations, Embankments, Bridges, Culverts, Viaducts, &c.

For the execution of Works on the Hull and Selby Railway, being a distance of about thirty-one miles.

For the execution of Works on the Dublin and Belfast Junction, and Navan Branch Railway. There are two separate contracts: No. 1, being a distance of nine miles, 1,542 yards. No. 2, being a distance of eleven miles, 1,274 yards.

For supplying her Majesty's several Dock-yards with 20,000 Loads of British Oak Timber; 7,400 Loads of British Oak Thickstuff and Plank; and 400,000 British Oak Treenails.

APPROACHING SALES OF WOOD, &c. BY AUCTION.

At Wainford's Farm, Little Bardfield, 150 capital Elm Timber Trees, 50 Ash ditto, 10 Oak ditto, &c.

At Haslegrove, Queen Camel, Somerset, upwards of 1,000 maiden Oak, Elm, and Ash Timber Trees, now standing.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"S. H."—*An occasional notice, such as that sent, will be acceptable. Every week would be too often. Architectural news might also be forwarded.*

"J. G. C."—*The style of the Wesleyan Theological Institution, Richmond, is late pointed. We do not know the architect's name. An edition of Richmon was published, we believe, at the beginning of present year.*

"Anta."—*A correspondent says, that many of the houses in the neighbourhood of the Regent's Park, and in Regent-street, are infested with a species of small ant, to such an extent, that the kitchens and larders are rendered almost useless. Can any of our readers suggest a remedy?*

"G. F. T." (Repton) *would probably obtain the Report on Schools by addressing a letter to the Secretary of the Council on Education, Whitehall.*

"G. S."—*We are much obliged for the paper sent. They shall be returned.*

"Plans on Parchment."—*Another correspondent says, "colourless ox gall," mixed with the colours, ensures an even tint.*

"G. B."—*It is always understood that additional works, or alterations, shall not invalidate a contract. The difference should be estimated, and added or deducted, as the case may be.*

"A Subscriber" *is thanked for the Rules.*

"W. B. (Birmingham.)—*The address of the Carving Company is given in another page. Mr. Pratt's carving works (Eccleston-street, Pimlico), might also be applied to.*

"Subscriber and Builder" *objects strongly to the fee of 10s. charged by district surveyors when a pot or zinc tube above 4 feet high is fixed.*

"G. W." *is not sufficiently clear for us to reply. He would, probably, find the information he seeks in "Nicholson's Masonry."*

"An Architect." *If the letter was not acknowledged, it did not reach us.*

Several communications are again unavoidably postponed.

Correspondents are requested to address all communications to the EDITOR.

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